



Town of Amherst, NH
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
Barbara Landry Meeting Room
2 Main Street
Monday, January 10, 2022, 6:00PM

1. Call to Order

Chairman Peter Lyon called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Attendees: Chairman Peter Lyon, Selectman Dwight Brew, Selectman John D'Angelo, Selectman Tom Grella, and Selectman Danielle Pray.

2. Non-Public Session

2.1. RSA 91-A:3, II (b) The hiring of any person as a public employee

A MOTION was made by Selectman Brew and SECONDED by Selectman D'Angelo to enter into Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3,II(b) at 6:01 pm.

Voting: 5-0-0 by roll call vote; motion carried unanimously.

Attendees: Chairman Peter Lyon, Selectman Dwight Brew, Selectman John D'Angelo, Selectman Tom Grella, and Selectman Danielle Pray.

Also Present: Town Administrator Dean Shankle and Alan Gould from Municipal Resources, Inc.

A MOTION was made by Selectman Brew and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to leave Non-Public session at 6:29 pm.

Voting: 5-0-0 by roll call vote; motion carried unanimously.

Chairman Peter Lyon called the public meeting back to order at 6:35 p.m.

Attendees: Chairman Peter Lyon, Selectman Dwight Brew, Selectman John D'Angelo, Selectman Tom Grella, and Selectman Danielle Pray

Ways & Means Committee present: Mike Parisi, Diane Leyton, Lori Mix, Wendy Rannenberg, Bill Loscocco, Mike Patterson, Lisa Eastland [6:58pm], and Jim Kuhnert

Also present: Town Administrator Dean Shankle and Recording Secretary Kristan Patenaude

3. Pledge of Allegiance – led by Lori Mix

4. Citizen's Forum

None at this time.

39 **5. Budget Public Hearing**

40 **5.1. Pursuant to New Hampshire RSA 32:5, I, the Amherst Board of Selectmen**
41 **hereby announces to the citizens of Amherst the convening of a Public Hearing to**
42 **take input on the proposed FY22 Town Operating Budget, bonds and notes, and**
43 **proposed warrant articles.**
44

45 *A MOTION was made by Selectman Grella and SECONDED by Selectman D'Angelo to enter*
46 *into a Public Hearing to discuss the FY22 Budget.*

47 *Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.*
48

49 Chairman Lyon noted that the Town's Deliberative Session will be held on February 9, 2022.
50

51 Chairman Lyon read Article 21 and explained what the estimated tax impact means in terms
52 of each Warrant Article.
53

54 Chairman Lyon read Article 22 into the record:

55 *ARTICLE 22: Operating Budget*

56 *Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate as an operating budget, not including*
57 *appropriations by special warrant articles and other appropriations voted separately, the*
58 *amounts set forth on the budget posted with the warrant or as amended by vote of the first*
59 *session, for the purposes set forth herein, totaling \$15,518,154. Should this article be defeated*
60 *the default budget shall be \$14,928,440 which is the same as last year with certain*
61 *adjustments required by previous action of the Town or by law; or the governing body may*
62 *hold one special meeting in accordance with RSA 40:13 X and XVI to take up the issue of a*
63 *revised operating budget only. This operating budget warrant article does not include*
64 *appropriations contained in any other warrant article. (Tax Impact = \$3.96) (Majority vote*
65 *required)*
66

67 Chairman Lyon noted some Town goals for FY23, including updating the Library website,
68 completion of the second phase of the Police Station renovation, adding program offerings to
69 the older adult population, and rehabilitating 3.88 miles of road. The 2022 approved budget
70 was \$14,877,676. The 2023 proposed budget is \$15,518,154. This is an increase of \$640,478,
71 or 4.3%.
72

73 In response to a question from Diane Leyton, Selectman Brew explained that the default
74 budgets in Town are set by the Board of Selectmen. The Board of Selectmen could propose a
75 budget that is less than the default budget. Creating the default budget starts with looking at
76 last year's budget and adding in or subtracting contractual obligations.
77

78 Chairman Lyon stated that the FY23 default budget is \$14,928,440. The difference between
79 that and the FY23 proposed budget is \$589,714, or \$0.26/\$1,000, or \$122 on a \$482,000 home
80 (average priced home in Town).
81

82 Selectman Brew mentioned that it would be useful to explicitly list the major items which
83 items are not included in the default budget for the Deliberative Session presentation.
84

Chairman Lyon noted that the estimated tax impact for Warrant Article 22 was recently changed due to additional revenue that will be received from the State.

Chairman Lyon read Warrant Article 23:

ARTICLE 23: Contingency Fund

Shall the Town vote to establish a contingency fund for the current year, in accordance with NH RSA Section 31:98-a, for unanticipated expenses that may arise and further to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred-twenty thousand dollars (\$120,000) to go into the fund. Said sum shall come from the undesignated fund balance and no amount to be raised from taxation. Any appropriation left in the fund at the end of the year will lapse to the general fund. This article has no tax impact. (Majority vote required).

Selectman Grella read Warrant Article 24:

ARTICLE 24: Communications Center Capital Reserve Fund

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to be added to the Communications Center Capital Reserve Fund, previously established. (Tax Impact = \$0.01). The Communications Center had a balance of \$121,131, as of November 30, 2021.

It was noted that approximately \$95,000 has been expended from this fund over the last four years. A primary radio tower replacement is proposed for 2022-2023, requiring an estimated match of \$45,000. A radio console replacement is proposed for 2025, requiring an estimated match of \$100,000.

Selectman Grella read Warrant Article 25:

ARTICLE 25: Assessing Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000) to be added to the Assessing Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund, previously established. (Tax Impact = \$0.01) The Assessing Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund had a balance of \$52,706, as of November 30, 2021.

Selectman Brew read Warrant Article 26:

ARTICLE 26: Bridge Repair and Replacement Capital Reserve Fund

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two hundred thousand (\$200,000) to be added to the Bridge Repair and Replacement Capital Reserve Fund, previously established. (Tax Impact = \$0.09) The Bridge Repair and Replacement Capital Reserve Fund had a balance of \$785,753, as of November 30, 2021.

Selectman Brew stated that, in 2017 the Board approved a 9-year plan to bring all 20+ bridges and three water crossings in Town up to good condition. The Town is working on bridge projects at #9 Mont Vernon Road and #17 Thornton Ferry Road, both of which at 80% State funded. New failures that occasionally happen, such as the Boston Post Road culvert that had emergency work done on it late last year, also need to be addressed as they arise.

Selectman Brew read Warrant Article 27:

ARTICLE 27: Fire Rescue Vehicle and Equipment Purchase and Repair Capital Reserve Fund Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of two hundred fifty-seven

thousand dollars (\$257,000) to be added to the Fire Rescue Vehicle and Equipment Purchase and Repair Capital Reserve Fund, previously established. (Tax Impact = \$0.11) The Fire Rescue Vehicle and Equipment Purchase and Repair Capital Reserve had a balance of \$1,252,900, as of November 30, 2021.

Selectman Brew explained that \$558,540 of this CRF was expended in 2020 for the replacement of a 1994 Fire Engine. Amherst Fire Rescue is working to develop specifications for replacement of the 1991 Fire Engine.

Selectman Brew read Warrant Article 28:

ARTICLE 28: DPW Vehicles and Equipment Acquisition and Replacement CRF

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of one hundred and twenty thousand dollars (\$120,000) to be added to the DPW Vehicles and Equipment Acquisition and Replacement Capital Reserve Fund, previously established. (Tax Impact = \$0.05). The DPW Vehicles and Equipment Acquisition and Replacement CRF had a balance of \$119,896, as of November 30, 2021.

Selectman Brew explained that for FY2022 & FY2023, the \$250,000 funding for DPW vehicles and equipment item will come from a \$120,000 Capital Reserve request and \$130,000 in the budget. In FY2024, the \$130,000 will be removed from the budget and the Capital Reserve Request will be \$250,000. The DPW has 25 vehicles or pieces of equipment with a value ranging from \$25,000 to \$300,000. The expected life of this equipment and vehicles ranges from 10 to 30 years

In response to a question from Mr. Kuhnert, Mr. Brew explained that the previous DPW Director and current Deputy DPW Director use their experience to determine the useful life calculation for the vehicles and equipment.

Selectman D'Angelo read Warrant Article 29:

ARTICLE 29: Amherst Multimodal Facilities CRF

Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of seventy-five thousand dollars (\$75,000) to be added to the Amherst Multimodal Facilities Capital Reserve Fund, previously established. (Tax Impact = \$0.03) The Amherst Multimodal Facilities CRF had a balance of \$74,935, as of November 30, 2021.

Selectman D'Angelo explained that this figure represents 1/3 of the estimated cost of the Amherst Bicycle & Pedestrian Advisory Committee's highest-priority project, the Boston Post Road School Campus Sidepath - an effort to provide safe, multimodal infrastructure in the area of Souhegan High School and Amherst Middle School. This has been the most-requested multimodal facility in the Town of Amherst since 1984, with repeated efforts in the past. If this article is successful, the Town could use it for a 2021 federal grant – the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP). Successful award of a TAP grant would likely cover 80% of the cost of the entire school campus project. The grant was announced in January 2021.

Selectman D'Angelo read Warrant Article 30:

ARTICLE 30: Amherst Multimodal Facilities CRF

178 *Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of ninety-eight thousand dollars*
179 *(\$98,000) for the purpose of design engineering for reconstruction and safety improvements*
180 *for bicycles and pedestrians on streets in the village area that are scheduled for*
181 *reconstruction by the Department of Public Works, and the development of application*
182 *materials for state, federal, and private grant programs. This shall be a special, non-lapsing*
183 *warrant article that will not lapse for a period of five years.*

184 *(Majority vote required) (Tax Impact = \$0.04) (Majority vote required)*

185
186 Selectman Pray read Warrant Article 31:

187 *ARTICLE 31: Recreation Fields Acquisition and Construction CRF*

188 *Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to*
189 *be added to the Recreation Fields Acquisition and Construction Capital Reserve Fund,*
190 *previously established. (Tax Impact = \$0.02 The Recreation Fields Acquisition and*
191 *Construction CRF had a balance of \$52,430, as of November 30, 2021.*

192
193 Selectman Pray explained that this article is part one of three, in anticipation of
194 eventually raising \$150,000. 50/50 matching grant funding for the park will be
195 sought from the Land Water Conservation Fund. Total associated costs are expected to be
196 \$300,000 The funding will be used in a three-phased project to build: two full sized
197 rectangular fields and one smaller rectangular practice field. Also, additional parking, a
198 playground, picnic area, and irrigation.

199
200 Selectman Pray read Warrant Article 32:

201 *ARTICLE 32: Elderly, Blind and Disabled Exemption*

202 *Shall the Town vote to modify the elderly, blind, and disabled exemptions from property tax*
203 *in the Town of Amherst, based on assessed value, for qualified taxpayers to be as follows:*

204 *For elderly persons:*

205 *-65 years of age up to 74 years inclusive, an exemption of \$ 104,120. (formerly*
206 *\$76,000).*

207 *-75 years of age up to 79 years inclusive, an exemption of \$ 156,180. (formerly*
208 *\$114,000).*

209 *-80 years of age or older, an exemption of \$ 206,870. (formerly \$151,000); and*

210
211 *For blind persons of any age:*

212 *-an exemption of \$ 50,690. (formerly \$37,000); and*

213 *For disabled persons of any age:*

214 *-an exemption of \$ 89,050. (formerly \$65,000); and*

215
216 *For the elderly and the disabled exemptions only*

217 *-a net income of not more than \$ 49,960. (formerly \$41,760) for a single person, or if*
218 *married, a combined net income of less than \$ 67,640. (formerly \$57,000); and*

219 *-own assets not in excess of \$ 165,000. (formerly \$150,000) excluding the value of the*
220 *person's residence in accordance with RSA 72:39-a.*

221
222 *To qualify for any of the above exemptions, a person must have been a New Hampshire*
223 *resident for at least three (3) years (5 years for the disabled person), own real estate*

individually or jointly, or if the real estate is owned by such person's spouse, they must have been married for at least five(5)years. (Estimated Tax Impact: .03 Cents per Thousand)

Chairman Lyon noted that there is also a petition Citizen's Warrant Article on the ballot.
ARTICLE 33: New Hampshire Resolution – To Stop the Puppy Mill Pipeline (By Petition)
By petition of 25 or more eligible voters of the town of Amherst; to see if the town will go on record opposing the retail sale of dogs and cats in pet stores in the town. This resolution is necessary because the majority of dogs and cats sold in pet stores are sourced from large-scale, inhumane commercial breeding facilities commonly called "puppy mills." The record of this vote shall be transmitted by written notice from the selectmen to the town's state legislators and to the Governor of New Hampshire. (Tax Impact = \$0.00)

Chairman Lyon noted that the total appropriation for FY23, if all Warrant Articles pass is \$16,566,154, or \$4.35/\$1,000, or \$2,098 on a \$482,000 home. He stated that the polls will be open for voting on March 8, 2022, from 6am-8pm at Souhegan High School.

A MOTION was made by Selectman D'Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to exit the public hearing.

Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

A MOTION was made by Selectman Brew and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to modify the tax impact listed on Warrant Article 22 from \$4.05 to \$3.96.

Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

The Board voted 4-1-0 in favor of supporting Warrant Article 22 as written. (Selectman D'Angelo against)

The Board voted 5-0-0 in favor of supporting Warrant Article 23 as written.

The Board voted 5-0-0 in favor of supporting Warrant Article 24 as written.

The Board voted 5-0-0 in favor of supporting Warrant Article 25 as written.

The Board voted 5-0-0 in favor of supporting Warrant Article 26 as written.

The Board voted 5-0-0 in favor of supporting Warrant Article 27 as written.

The Board voted 4-1-0 in favor of supporting Warrant Article 28 as written. (Selectman D'Angelo against)

The Board voted 5-0-0 in favor of supporting Warrant Article 29 as written.

The Board voted 5-0-0 in favor of supporting Warrant Article 30 as written.

The Board voted 5-0-0 in favor of supporting Warrant Article 31 as written.

The Board voted 5-0-0 in favor of supporting Warrant Article 32 as written.

271
272 *The Board did not vote in favor of Warrant Article 33, as it is a petition Warrant Article.*
273

274 **6. Scheduled Appointments**

275 None at this time.
276

277 **7. Administration**

278 **7.1 Administrative Updates**

279 Town Administrator Shankle asked Jennifer Stover, Executive Assistant, to give an update
280 from the COVID-19 Task Force.
281

282 Ms. Stover explained that the Task Force met regarding the recent updated CDC guidelines.
283 The Task Force is in favor of these guidelines but has not yet had a chance to create a formal
284 recommendation to the Board of Selectmen. The Task Force is requesting the ability to make
285 changes to the Town's COVID-19 policies for employees based on changes to the CDC's
286 recommendations, without first coming before the Board. She noted that the recent CDC
287 changes allow for employees to return to work after five days of quarantining, instead of 10, if
288 they are then willing to wear a mask for the following five days.
289

290 Selectman Brew stated that he would be comfortable allowing the Task Force to make
291 necessary interim changes before coming to the Board if these are recommended as safe by
292 the CDC and State. He suggested that the Task Force be allowed to enact these interim
293 guidelines, subject to review and acceptance by the Board at the next meeting.
294

295 It was noted that the CDC's recommendations do not always align with the State's
296 recommendations. Selectman D'Angelo stated that he believes the Town has been following
297 the NH Department of Health's recommendations to date. If there are not clear
298 recommendations from the NHDOH, the Town has been following CDC guidelines.
299

300 *A MOTION was made by Selectman Brew and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to give the*
301 *COVID-19 Task Force the authority to adopt interim measures for Town employees at any*
302 *point based on NH Department of Health changes, and that the Task Force will come before*
303 *the Board to ratify these measures at a following meeting.*

304 *Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.*
305

306 Town Administrator Shankle explained that the Town recently received a letter from
307 Eversource regarding possible controlled, rotating, electricity outages due to fuel demand
308 issues. He will place the letter on the Town website for the public to review it.
309

310 **8. Staff Reports**

311 **8.1 Cruiser Purchase Approval**

312 Police Chief Mark Reams explained that the Department had only planned to replace two
313 vehicles this year. Unfortunately, the Department's 2010 Ford Expedition was recently totaled
314 unexpectedly. He explained that two cruisers were already purchased in FY22, but he is now
315 also requesting funding for a third replacement vehicle. In order to do so, he plans to access
316 funds from the Police Detail Revolving Fund, which can legally be used for public service
317 safety items, such as a new Police vehicle.

318
319 *Selectman Brew exited the room momentarily.*

320
321 In response to a question from Chairman Lyon, Chief Reams explained that there may be
322 approximately \$20,000 additionally of equipment needed for this new vehicle in the future.

323
324 In response to a question from Selectman D'Angelo, Chief Reams stated that, due to the age
325 of the vehicle that was totaled, the Department only received \$10,000 from insurance
326 coverage and this has already been spent.

327
328 *A MOTION was made by Selectman Grella and SECONDED by Selectman D'Angelo to*
329 *award the cruiser purchase bid to Northwest Hills Automotive, LLC, in the amount of*
330 *\$39,731, and to approve the expenditure of funds in that amount and for that purpose from the*
331 *Police Detail Revolving Fund.*

332 *Voting: 4-0-0; motion carried unanimously.*

333
334 *Selectman Brew reentered the meeting.*

335 336 **9. Approvals**

337 **9.1 Assessing**

338 ***Veteran Tax Credit***

339 **A.** The assessor reviewed the attached Veteran Tax Credit Application provided and
340 the applicant qualifies for the Tax Credit under RSA 72:28 for the 2022 tax year.

341
342 *A MOTION was made by Selectman Brew and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to approve*
343 *the Veteran Tax Credit for tax year 2022 in the amount of \$500 for Map 008, Lot 053-017.*

344 *Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.*

345
346 **B.** The assessor reviewed the application, and the applicant qualifies for the Tax Credit
347 under RSA 72:28 for the 2022 tax year.

348
349 *A MOTION was made by Selectman Brew and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to approve*
350 *the Veteran Tax Credit for tax year 2022 in the amount of \$500 for Map 017, Lot 021-000.*

351 *Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.*

352
353 **C.** The assessor reviewed the application, and the applicant qualifies for the Tax Credit
354 under RSA 72:28 for the 2022 tax year.

355
356 *A MOTION was made by Selectman Brew and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to approve*
357 *the Veteran Tax Credit for tax year 2022 in the amount of \$500 for Map 017, Lot 021-000.*

358 *Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.*

359
360 **D.** The assessor reviewed the attached Service-Connected Total and Disabled Tax
361 Credit Application provided and the applicant qualifies for the Tax Credit under RSA
362 72:35 for the 2022 tax year.

A MOTION was made by Selectman Brew and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to approve the Service-Connected Total and Disabled Tax Credit for tax year 2022 in the amount of \$4,000.00 for Map 003, Lot 059-012.

Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

Land Use Change Tax

E. The lot was purchased on 8/27/2021 causing this lot to no longer qualify for current use as it is less than 10 acres and not contiguous with other lots in current use under identical ownership. The Land Use Change Tax in the amount of \$13,930 represents 10% of the full and true market value of \$139,300.

A MOTION was made by Selectman Brew and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to approve the Land Use Change Tax in the amount of \$13,930 for Tax Map 004 Lot 154-000.

Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

F. The lot was purchased on 8/27/2021 causing this lot to no longer qualify for current use as it is less than 10 acres and not contiguous with other lots in current use under identical ownership. The Land Use Change Tax in the amount of \$14,960 represents 10% of the full and true market value of \$149,600.

A MOTION was made by Selectman Brew and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to approve the Land Use Change Tax in the amount of \$14,960 for Tax Map 004 Lot 154-002.

Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

Abatement Recommendations

G. During the town-wide revaluation some properties had their assessments reduced to the point that it resulted in an overcharge on the first issue tax bill. The primary reason for this abatement is to clear the books and have documentation for the records and for audit purposes. This would result in an abatement in the amount of \$532.00.

A MOTION was made by Selectman Brew and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to approve the 2021 abatement in the amount of \$532.00 for Map 010 Lot 067-032.

Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

H. During the town-wide revaluation some properties had their assessments reduced to the point that it resulted in an overcharge on the first issue tax bill. The primary reason for this abatement is to clear the books and have documentation for the records and for audit purposes. This would result in an abatement in the amount of \$287.00.

A MOTION was made by Selectman Brew and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to approve the 2021 abatement in the amount of \$287.00 for Map 025 Lot 024-000.

Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

I. During the town-wide revaluation some properties had their assessments reduced to the point that it resulted in an overcharge on the first issue tax bill. The primary reason for this abatement is to clear the books and have documentation for the records and for audit purposes. This would result in an abatement in the amount of \$427.00.

A MOTION was made by Selectman Brew and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to approve the 2021 abatement in the amount of \$427.00 for Map 007 Lot 017-084.
Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

Department of Revenue Sales Ratio Study

J. A draft analysis of the sales data was performed through the State's data entry program. Overall, the town's assessment to sale median ratio is expected to be about 95% for the 2021 tax year. The 309 valid sales indicate a COD of approximately 9.39 with the PRD at 1.03. The above listed figures are expected to be similar (although not exact as different sales may be included/excluded) to the DRA's analysis, which should be completed in the late winter to early spring of 2022. Once the attached form is signed the final sales data will be submitted to the Department of Revenue. The Assessor has submitted the Department of Revenue Sales Ratio Survey Study and recommends to approve and sign.

A MOTION was made by Selectman Brew and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to accept and sign, the 2021 Department of Revenue Sales Ratio Survey Study
Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

9.2 AP, Payroll, Minutes

Payroll

A MOTION was made by Selectman D'Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Pray to approve one (1) FY21 Payroll Manifest in the amount of \$230,194.53 dated December 30, 2021, subject to review and audit.
Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

Accounts Payable

A MOTION was made by Selectman D'Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Pray to approve one (1) FY21 Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$35,079.81 dated December 16, 2021, subject to review and audit. (NH DMV)
Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

A MOTION was made by Selectman D'Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Pray to approve one (1) FY21 Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$311,217.61 dated December 21, 2021, subject to review and audit. (Vendors)
Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

A MOTION was made by Selectman D'Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Pray to approve one (1) FY21 Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$19,663.24 dated December 23, 2021, subject to review and audit. (Vendors)
Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

A MOTION was made by Selectman D'Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Pray to approve one (1) FY21 Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$473,016.06 dated January 4, 2022, subject to review and audit. (Vendors)
Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

A MOTION was made by Selectman D'Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Pray to approve one (1) FY21 Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$3,176,200.00 dated January 1, 2022, subject to review and audit. (Schools)
Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

A MOTION was made by Selectman Pray and SECONDED by Selectman D'Angelo to approve the Board of Selectmen meeting minutes of December 20, 2021, as written.
Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

10. Action Items

The Board reviewed its action items.

11. Old/New Business

Selectman D'Angelo stated that the Amherst School Board has a public bond hearing tomorrow night at 6pm at Souhegan High School. The Amherst School Board budget hearing will be held on Wednesday an 5pm at Souhegan High School, and the Souhegan Cooperative School Board budget hearing will take place the same night at 7pm.

Selectman Brew read the following statement into the record:

I wanted to take this opportunity to answer a question that I have been asked a number of times over the last several months.

In March, I will be completing my 12th year as an Amherst Selectman. While being a Selectman has been one of the most rewarding experiences in my life, I have decided not to run for reelection. I have greatly enjoyed the other opportunities this has afforded me including serving on the Planning Board and the Master Plan Steering Committee and working with our dedicated Town volunteers and employees. I plan on spending more time with my family, traveling, and likely relocate to the White Mountains region.

I know that there are two strong candidates that will run for the two Selectmen spots on the ballot in March, and I plan on actively supporting their candidacy.

The Board thanked Selectman Brew for his years of service to the Town.

12. Non-Public Session

12.1. RSA 91-A:3, II (b) The hiring of any person as a public employee

A MOTION was made by Selectman Pray and SECONDED by Selectman D'Angelo to enter into Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3,II(b) at 8:20pm.
Voting: 5-0-0 by roll call vote; motion carried unanimously.

Attendees: Chairman Peter Lyon, Selectman Dwight Brew, Selectman John D'Angelo, Selectman Tom Grella, and Selectman Danielle Pray.

Also Present: Town Administrator Dean Shankle.

505 A MOTION was made by Selectman D'Angelo and SECONDED by Selectman Grella to leave
506 Non-Public session at 8:45 pm.
507 Voting: 5-0-0 by roll call vote; motion carried unanimously.

508
509 Chairman Lyon announced that no motions were made, and no action was taken in the Non-
510 Public session.

511
512 A MOTION was made by Selectman Brew and SECONDED by Selectman Pray to adjourn the
513 meeting at 8:46 pm.
514 Voting: 5-0-0; motion carried unanimously.

515
516
517 **NEXT MEETING: Monday, January 24, 2022**

518
519
520
521 _____
522 *Selectman Danielle Pray* *Date*